

Express Mail Label No.: EL831679562US

Date of Deposit: December 20, 2001

12-2801

RCE/1627 #

PATENT APPLICATION

Atty Docket No. 15966-518 RCE (Cura-18RCE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Mehta et al.
RCE OF SERIAL NO.: 09/351,617
FILING DATE: July 12, 1999
FOR: General Screening Method for Ligand Protein Interactions

EXAMINER: P. Ponnaluri

ART UNIT: 1627

Box RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Enclosed herein are the following:

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action, dated June 20, 2001 (23 pages);
2. Exhibits A through D (31 pages);
3. Petition for a three (3) month extension of time (1 page, in duplicate);
4. Check #11204 for \$370.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) for filing an RCE ;
5. Check #11205 for \$460.00 for a three month Petition for extension of time; and
6. Return postcard.

No additional fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-518RCE. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Biswas

Date: December 20, 2001

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Naomi Biswas, Reg. No. 38,384
Attorneys for Applicant
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS
GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Tel: (617) 542-6000
Fax: (617) 542-2241

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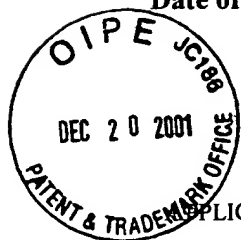


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Express Mail Number: EL831679562US
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Attorney Docket No. 15966-518RCE



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Mehta *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/351,617 EXAMINER: P. Ponnaluri
FILING DATE: July 12, 1999 ART UNIT: 1627
FOR: GENERAL SCREENING METHOD FOR LIGAND-PROTEIN INTERACTION

BOX RCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 20, 2001

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 20, 2001 ("Office Action"), Applicants submit herewith in the above mentioned patent application a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114 and the required fee. Also filed herewith is a Petition for a Three Month Extension of time and a check for \$460.00 to cover the small entity fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3). With the extension, these documents are due on or before December 20, 2001. Please charge any payments or credit any overpayments of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference 15966-518RCE.

Please amend the specification as provided below prior to any further examination pursuant to the RCE. Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 6, 12-20, 23, 24, 26, 27 and 31-35 are pending in the application.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 21 and 22 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly replace the pending claims with the following claims:

1. A method for identifying a cellular component to which a small molecule is capable of binding, comprising:

- (a) providing a hybrid ligand consisting essentially of two ligands, identified as ligand A and ligand B that are linked together, wherein

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